

THE INFLUENCE OF INSTITUTIONS ON CIVIL SOCIETY IN MAKING DECISIONS IN ENVIRONMENTAL LOCAL AUTHORITIES (PRACTICAL ASPECTS)

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Politics of the local government plays the important role in developing environmental resources of towns as for the disposal of land, which by its purpose or beneficial use is assigned to the green areas of settlement (parks, gardens, lawns, landscaping neighborhoods and coastal areas of local ponds).

Unfortunately, most business entities in the modern market economy of our state ignore the issue of rational use of land resources of local communities. The purpose of profit or satisfaction of their own (individual) needs in most cases, puts aside the environmental issues of the society.

Sumy is no exception. Thus, in recent years, influential businessmen and officials are actually engaged in the politics of destruction of greenery areas of our city. Each year the mass media ascertain the discontent of the inhabitants of our city as for decisions adopted by the Sumy city council on the allocation of land for the construction of blocks of flats, dwelling houses, shopping centres, individual housing in recreational areas of our city: blocks of flats on the shores of the Lake Chekh (2006), individual residential buildings in the area of the Basivskyi Park (2008), homestead buildings on the Krinichnaya - Lunacharsky Street (2008 -2009), buildings on the banks of the Sumka river in the centre of the city on the Pivdenna and Luhova streets (2009-2010), blocks of flats along the Psel river on the D. Korotchenko Street (2011), construction of the commercial office centre on the Kurska Street (2009-2012).

Nowadays most of these projects are left without intervention of the public at the stage of the construction beginning. Unfortunately, correspondent decision about the allocation of land with green space are taken by local government without taking into account the statements of the general plan of Sumy city and discussion of the matter with the local community of the city. Thus, the majority of areas, which by their functional purpose are assigned to the areas of rest and recovery of the population, find themselves in possession or use of private individuals. Meanwhile, the position of active citizenship is to prevent the construction of the recreation sites for population leads to considerable loss of business entities (expenses for land development and project documentation, involving material and human resources as for the planning and implementation of commercial projects, etc.).

Taking into account the above-mentioned information, one can conclude that it is necessary to follow the balance of local authorities the interests of the public and businesses in making decisions about natural resource communities.

In early 2010, the active participation of the Expert Committee of the Public Sumy City Council on environmental improvement provided the decision of the City Council "On Moratorium on the change of the target land use in Sumy city" dated 14.02.2010 No. 3620-MR. This decision was made to prevent negative changes in microclimatic conditions, destruction of natural systems and landscapes, to preserve their values and biological diversity, sustainable use of natural objects, to prevent mass construction of green areas of the city.

It should be mentioned that the commission began its work as an advisory body in matters of the city ecology, and completed as an active participant in the process of developing the above-mentioned decision. The company's decisive point of lobbying of the project was the decision to send an open letter to the mayor and members of Sumy City Council to demand to stop the destruction of green plantings in Sumy city which, considering the arguments, preferred the public opinion.